



# newhope

Creating Communities Free from Violence and Exploitation



Dear Friends,

Last year New Hope changed our tag line from “Ending Sexual and Domestic Violence”, to “Creating Communities Free from Violence and Exploitation.” Why the change you may wonder. The new tag line is reflective of a more pro-active approach, recognizes that sexual and domestic violence are community issues, and positions ourselves as a leader in building healthy, safe and violent free communities. In April, 2017, we were awarded new contracts with Department of Public Health (up to eleven years), to continue our life-saving work. In line with our new strategic plan and with longer term funding secured, we began to focus on more strategic community engagement. One such collaboration initiated in FY17 was with The Arc of Northern Bristol County to increase our capacity to provide services to persons living with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



While this report focuses on New Hope and our accomplishments, we are not an island. The last fiscal year brought into focus the connection between mass shootings and domestic violence. An analysis of FBI data from 2009 through 2015 found that 54% of mass shootings involve domestic violence and 16% of attackers had been previously charged with DV. (Everytown for Gun Safety). We also have witnessed the impact on immigrant populations, who are afraid to seek services due to the anti-immigrant fervor in the country. We have seen an increase in hate crimes, particularly against LGBTQ populations, Jews and Muslims; unarmed black citizens have been gunned down. Economic policies have contributed to a decline in the middle class. Locally, sex trafficking has been uncovered in some towns. Yes, all of these things are related to sexual and domestic violence.

At New Hope we are looking at the confluence of these issues, the impact on survivors and how we can be a voice for peace and justice. We are committed to engaging the voices of survivors in our work. Our staff has formed an internal committee, VOICES, to explore these issues and how we as an agency can support those who have been underserved. We are committed to educating ourselves, even as we educate the community. All of this is happening as staff continues to provide supportive services to survivors. The commitment of survivors to their healing and to the staff who journey with them continue to amaze me. They (staff and survivors) are my heroes.

As we end the fiscal year, I want to take a moment to thank all of you for your support of our work. As I am fond of saying, “we cannot do this alone.” I look forward to your continued presence on our journey.

Warmly,

Marcia Szymanski

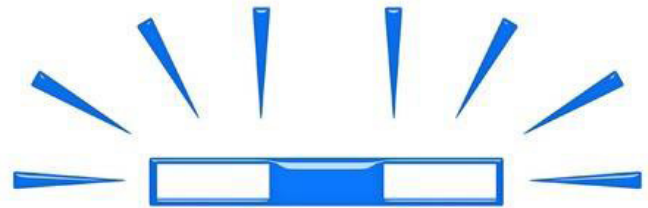
**“The most common way that people  
give up their power is by thinking  
they do not have any”**

**Alice Walker**

# This year...



**152 families received visitation services in the aftermath of family violence**



**450 clients received services and resources in the wake of a police involved incident**

*DIPLOMA*

**20,763 adults and children attended workshops, trainings and outreach events, attaining a better understanding of violence and exploitation.**



## New Hope Board of Directors

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\*New Hope welcomes Board Members who are joining us in FY18.



**This year, New Hope invited the community to engage in our awareness campaigns. We'd like to share the stories of some brave survivors who have sought assistance from our programs during their journey from victim to survivor. Do not be afraid to take a stand against sexual and domestic violence. It can make a difference in someone's life. It made all the difference in these lives...**

My wife was so possessive of me, and jealous of everyone I paid any attention to, including family, friends, and even my own two kids from a previous marriage. She would go to extreme lengths to control my behavior. I felt so worthless, so weak, and had virtually no self-esteem at all. I could never make her happy. I kept making excuses for my wife; she just needs help she will get better, she was drunk, she is just stressed, she has been through a lot. Then I started rationalizing such irrational behavior which led into me thinking, 'I'm the crazy one'... I was walking on eggshells at home. I was so lost. I had no idea who I was anymore. It hurt knowing I couldn't cope anymore.

I'm normally a strong person. I'm a soldier and a paratrooper, I swallow my fear and ignore it when it comes to the moment I have to jump from the plane. This though was so different. I had no way to cope. She cut all that out of my life I made excuses, I lied to myself and said, 'I can handle it' or 'I'm overreacting'...I wasn't. I discovered New Hope when they presented about domestic violence and services at my church. I felt like everything being said was aimed directly at me...I thought, I am not alone. I went up to the speaker immediately after, and said out loud, I am a victim. That was the start of my new life, the one that has led me to a place where I can proudly say that I am a survivor.

Joshua





How do I explain domestic abuse to my 5 year old son? He's seen his father become violent and hurt me. He's seen the police arrest his father and take him away from our home. So, when he saw the police arrive again one evening after another domestic assault incident, my son ran and hid. This time the officer had a New Hope Advocate with him. The Advocate got down on the floor with my son and spoke softly. She encouraged him and showed him some toys and a teddy bear that the officer brought for comfort. She mentioned that the policeman had a nice badge. Upon hearing that my son ran to his room and came back with a belt with a toy badge to show to the officer. Soon the officer and my son were having a conversation. I was so thankful; I started to cry. That simple act of kindness and understanding the extra step that the New Hope Advocate took made all the difference. And I am happy to report that today my children and I are living free from violence and fear.

Teresa

I feel as though I died the day of my rape. I do not identify with the person that I was before. I do not know who she is. I do not remember her laughter. The dreams she wanted and had are fleeting memories. The potential she had disappeared, slipped away from her faster than she could ever imagine. Twenty minutes was all it took to take my life away. Twenty minutes was all it took to strip my soul of my identity.

For years I dove into self-destruct mode. I ruined every friendship I had because I felt it was easier to be alone. Being alone meant no one could hurt me. Loneliness was reliable; it couldn't rape me of my identity. I dated men who did not treat me well because I thought I deserved it. I let myself get emotionally raped every day by my rapist. I let him win, over and over again. I have night terrors and flashbacks. For a long time, I did not know how to even explain this to anyone.

20 minutes, yet 11 years later and I am still affected.

I finally began searching for counseling to get the help that I needed. New Hope gave me the courage to begin doing the things that I needed to begin to heal. I began doing the things that reminded me every day that what happened to me was not my fault. That I was not making a mountain out of a molehill. That what was done to me was not just "20 minutes of action." It was a violent crime, and our current culture silenced me for several years.

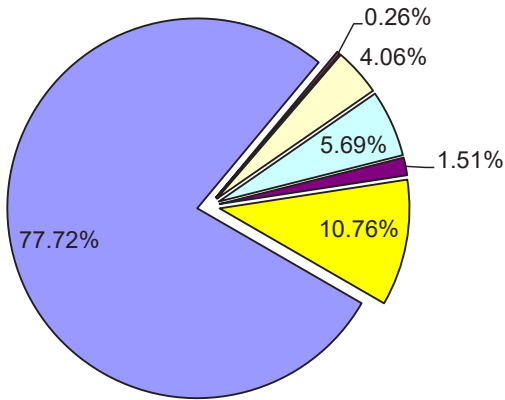
I received services from New Hope years ago, and those services were the catalyst I needed. I am proud to reconnect with New Hope these many years later as a volunteer, and although I prefer to remain anonymous, I trust that my story will resonate with so many others. There is so much work to be done.

Alex



NEW HOPE, INC.  
FISCAL YEAR 2017 FINANCIAL DATA

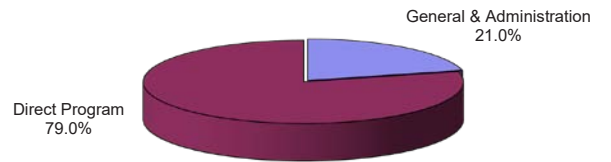
|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>                             | \$2,625,533        |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>  | <u>2,598,522</u>   |
| <b>Excess/(Deficit) of Support &amp; Revenue over Expenses</b> | <u>\$27,011</u>    |
| <br>   |                    |
| <b>Net Assets - 7/01/2016</b>                                  | \$1,216,502        |
| Addition/(Reduction) in Net Assets                             | 33,013             |
| <b>Net Assets - 6/30/2017</b>                                  | <u>\$1,249,516</u> |



**Sources of Revenue**

- Government Contracts
- Other Income
- United Way
- Service Fees
- Donated Goods & Services
- Donations, Grants & Fund Raising

**Application of Funding**



This data has been prepared for presentation prior to completion of the annual audit. When completed, copies of the audited financial statements will be available upon request.



The Heart of Cabi Foundation

THANK YOU  
Volunteers

*The ultimate expression of generosity is not in giving what you have, it is in giving of who you are. New Hope volunteers and interns donated 5795 hours of service this year.*

*We know that we couldn't do it without you!*

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If you have accidentally been excluded from this list, please accept our sincere apologies. Contact the development office, and your information will be corrected on our digital report.



**800-323-HOPE (4673)**

**[www.New-Hope.org](http://www.New-Hope.org)**

** /NewHopeInc**

Headquarters:

140 Park Street - Attleboro, MA

Offices in Milford, Southbridge, Taunton

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